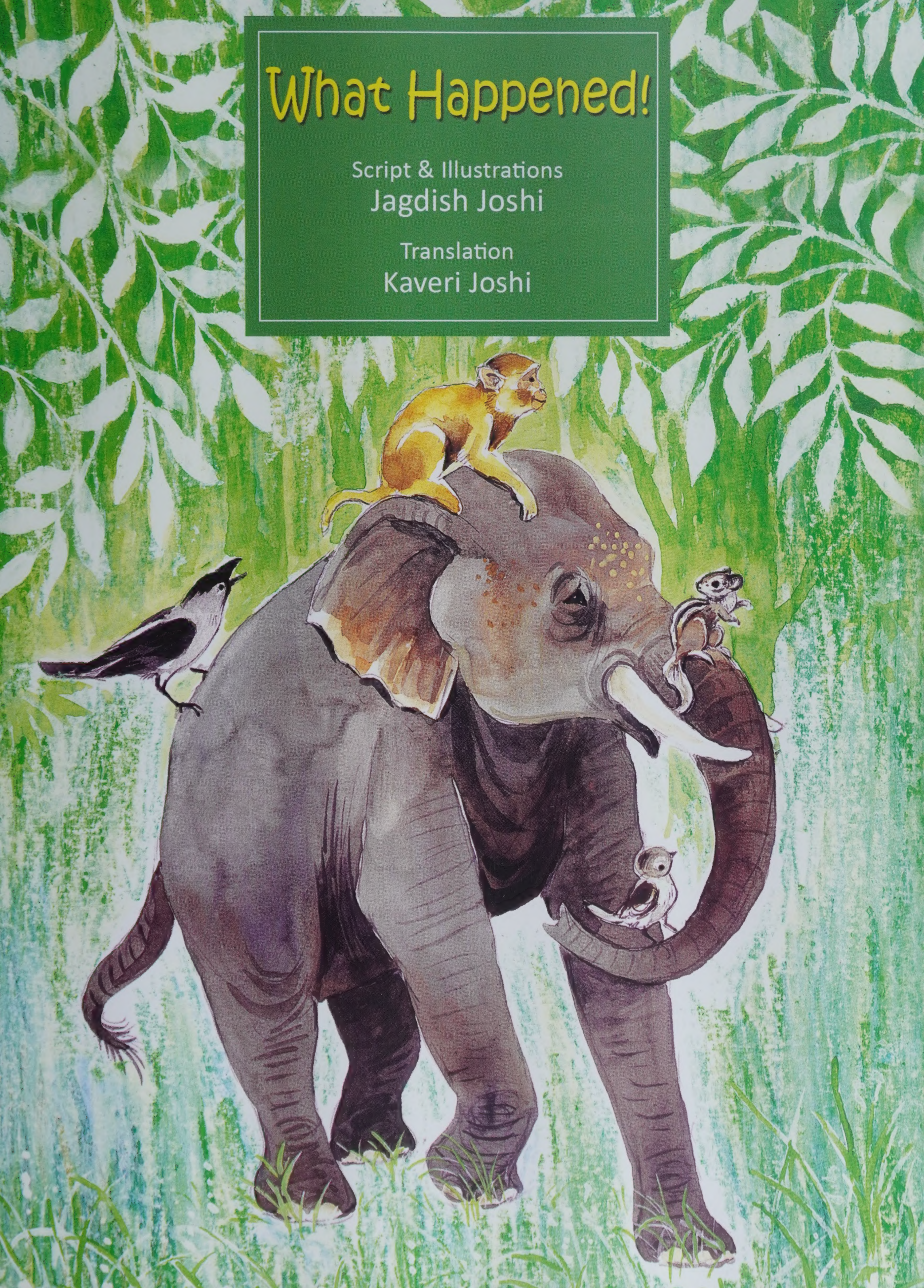
What Happened!

Script & Illustrations
Jagdish Joshi

Translation
Kaveri Joshi



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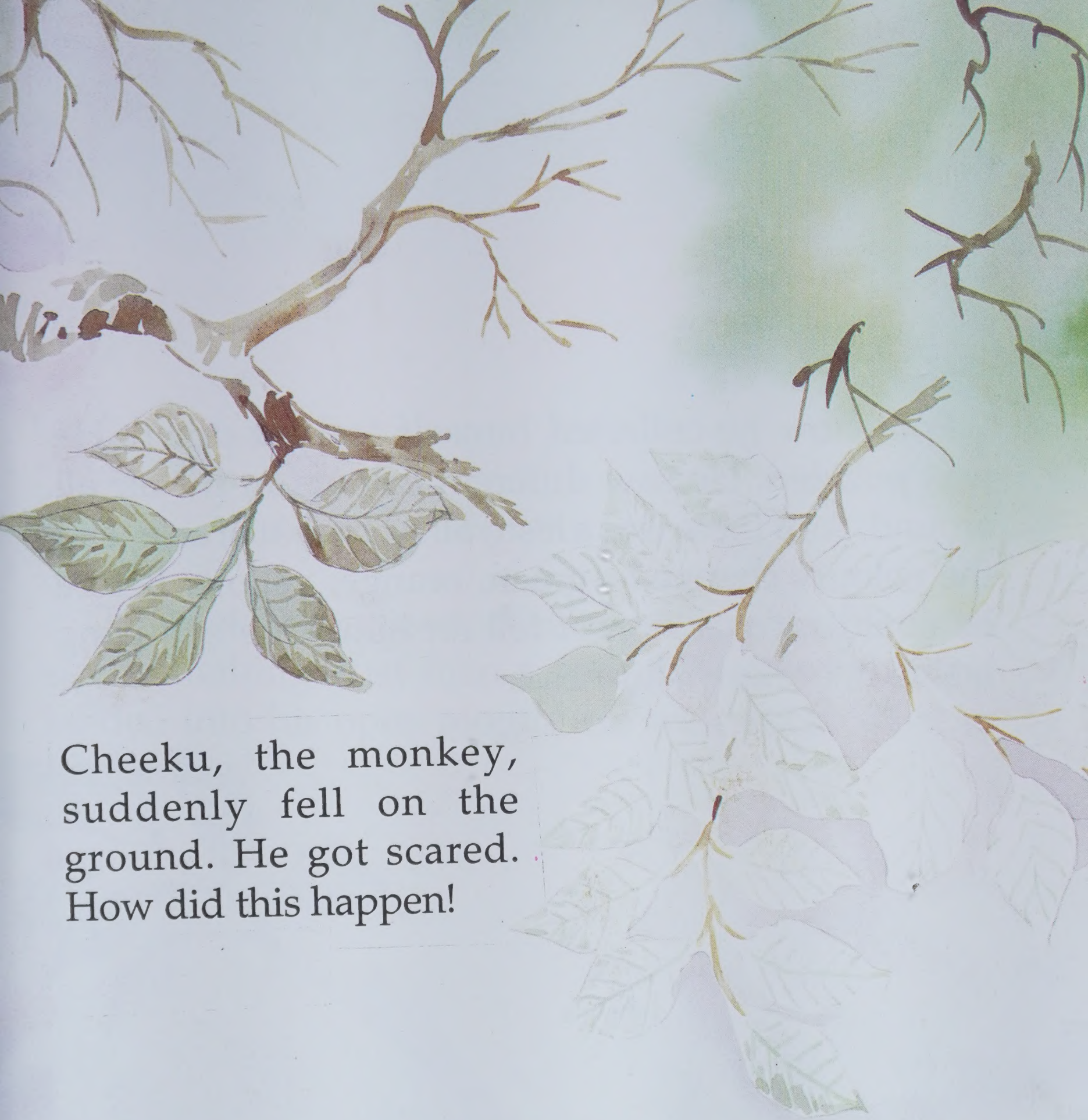
'Hey! What's up?' As he was about to gather himself, Chichi sparrow rushed in complaining, "Oh, god! What have you done! Broken my nest!! Broken my egg!!! Why did you do this to me? Did I ever harm you?"



Cheeku, the monkey, suddenly fell on the ground. He got scared. How did this happen!

Somehow he collected himself and sat down. He was puzzled. He saw different colours in the air all around. As if there was a festival! At the bat of an eyelid the colours changed—green, orange, yellow. Before he could recover, a nest fell on him. One egg lying inside it, broke on his head.

Completely confused, cheeku opened his mouth to say something. Just then a fruit falling from above landed into his open mouth. He was stuck! What is happening?

Hearing Chichi's outburst, Tiptip squirrel came jumping. She scolded Chichi. "Hey! Chichi! What is all the fuss about? Just look around carefully and you will forget your anger."

Cheeku and Chichi looked around. They were shocked. "Good heavens! What has happened?" They uttered in harmony.

The tree on which they all lived was lying upside down. The branches and leaves were on the ground and the roots were touching the sky. The cawing crows creating a racket in the background.

No one could make out as to how it happened? There was no storm, nor any earthquake. Then how did the tree overturn?

"Come let's go and seek help from Appu the elephant. He can set the tree right!" suggested Tiptip, the squirrel.

All the animals went to Appu. On hearing their plight, Appu agreed to help.

On reaching the site of the uprooted tree, Appu looked around. Then he wrapped his trunk around that of the tree and lifted it. Slowly, he turned the tree to place it back in the original pit. Thereafter, he pressed the loose sand with his heavy feet into the pit.

Once again the tree was back in its place. Everyone cheered with happiness.

Appu accompanied them.

A monkey sleeping on the branch of the tree also began to clap and dance with joy.

Now what? He loses his balance and falls with a thud. Ah, now he realises that he had been dreaming!!

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